

# THE C4 NEWSLETTER

*Colonial Coin Collectors Club*

*NJ 73-aa over Georgivs Triumpho*

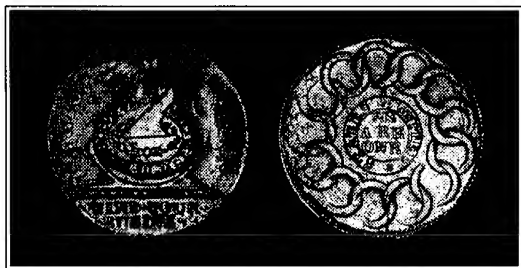


*Summer, 1999*

*Volume 7 Number 2*

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## **The C4 Newsletter**

Volume 7 Number 2

A quarterly publication of

## **The Colonial Coin Collectors Club, Inc.**

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*Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Angel Pietri at the address listed above. Dues are \$20-regular, \$10 for junior members (under 18), \$25-1<sup>st</sup> class mailing of newsletter, \$400 for Life Membership (or 4 quarterly payments of \$100).*



### ***C4 Newsletter Associate Editors:***

Angel Pietri, Russell Easterbrooks, Tom Madigan

*Articles, letters for publication, and ads should be sent to either Angel Pietri, Russell Easterbrooks*

*Tom Madigan*

*or to your Regional Vice President.*

***Spring, 1999***

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Ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows:

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	Copy size
1 page	\$50	\$75	\$125	4-1/2"x 7-1/2"
1/2 page	30	45	75	4-1/2"x 3-3/4"

If you want to include a photo with your ad at an additional \$10. Black and white photo needed, size can be adjusted to fit. Please send check with your ad. We can accept camera ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 13 lines.



**Table of Contents**

Editor's Notes	4
<i>Angel Pietri</i>	
President's Message	5
<i>Dennis Wierzba</i>	
C4 Items for Sale	6
C4 Convention Information and Education Program	7
Noted Numismatist Robbed	9
Letters to the Editor	10
<i>Russell Easterbrooks</i>	
<i>Lawrence J. Lee</i>	
ANA Summer Course on Colonial Coinage and paper Money	13
A Georgivs Triumpho as the Undertype of a NJ 73-aa	14
<i>Dennis Wierzba</i>	
Jacob Perkins: Inventor Extraordinaire	20
<i>Russell Easterbrooks</i>	
A Link Between Walter Mould and James Jarvis	24
<i>Dennis Wierzba</i>	
St. Patrick's coinage project	27
<i>John Griffiee</i>	
Unclassified Ads	28



***Editor's Notes***

Angel Pietri

Collectors who enjoy colonial coins and those who enjoy large cents share a lot in common. They both love copper coins, and enjoy the history of the period. Oftentimes you will find these collectors crossing over from one field to the other. From an editorial perspective, what do I see as the main difference between colonial coin collectors and large cent collectors? The main difference I can see is that large cent collectors seem to be much more vocal than colonial collectors are. The pages of Penny Wise are full of

contributions from collectors expressing their views about one or another subject, with occasional exchanges running several issues and involving some rather sharp differences of opinion. Yet after nearly two years of handling the C4 Newsletter, I am surprised by how few comments, positive, neutral or negative, I have received for publication from our members. This is not always due to lack of opinions, since I hear some of these opinions expressed privately. Now, I agree that acrimony is not necessary or helpful. However, controversy is both good and productive. It keeps everyone on his or her toes and enhances the final result. And controversy can usually be expressed without acrimony. Many times all it takes is stating "I agree or disagree with so and so" rather than "So and so don't know what they are talking about". I think we have to become a little more like large cent collectors and express our opinions.

### **Dues**

This is the third call for dues. If your mailing label has a 98, your dues are needed. If the number is 99 or 00, you are up to date on your dues.



### ***Message from the President***

by Dennis Wierzba

EAC 99 has come and gone. The Colonial happening brought together many members of C4 along with some great coppers. Our panel discussion on viewing, comparing and grading Colonials was lively and not without controversy.

The Vermont book is getting to be in short supply. Anyone who has corrections, new historical discoveries or great Vermonts should contact Tony Carlotto. A second edition is now in the planning stage, but input is needed. As many of you know, C4 will return to Boston 11/5-11/7/99. Once again, M+G will run the 1999 C4 auction. A nice core consignment of 200+ "Redbook-type" has been

**Spring, 1999**

received. I urge our members to add to this total, even with a few pieces.

With the robbery of Tom Reynolds and a missing lot from our last C4 auction, I intend to "tighten up" our lot viewing procedures. I need much more help behind the tables to make this happen. Please contact me if you can volunteer time for C4.



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## ***C4 Items for Sale***

### **C4 Convention Items for Sale**

***Hardbound Scott Barnes Catalogs \$50***

***Hardbound Third and Fourth C4 Convention Catalogues \$50/ea.***

***Call or write Dennis if you are interested.***

Add \$3 postage and handling. All will be sent uninsured at buyer's risk. If you want insurance, add an appropriate amount. Please forward your check to Dennis, payable to C4, at the address below.

### **The Richard Picker Collection Lot Envelopes**

Stack's has provided C4 with Picker's own customized envelopes from his collection sold in October 1984. They are available from the club for \$5 each if you can show adequate proof that you own the coin. This \$5 donation is for the club's treasury, thanks to Stack's. All unsold envelopes will be returned to Stack's. If you own any of these coins and would like to own the envelope, contact me at the address below.

**Dennis Wierzba**



## ***C4 Convention and Education Program*** ***Boston, MA 11/05/99-11/07/99***

The fifth C4 Convention will be held again in Boston, November 5-7, 1999 in conjunction with the Bay states Coin Show. The hotel will again be the Radisson Hotel, 200 Stuart St., Boston 02116.

Be sure to call early for reservations at 617-482-1800, since it may fill up soon. The convention rate is \$115 for a single room and \$125

## *Spring, 1999*

for a double room. Please make sure to mention the Bay States Coin Show to get the discount.

There will be an auction by McCawley and Grellman on Saturday night. Consignments are still being sought for this auction. See ad in back of this issue for details.

Dealers please contact Ed Aleo for details

Volunteers will be needed for auction lot viewing. Please contact Dennis Wierzba to volunteer.

Jim Rosen prepared the education program, and is as follows:

### Friday Evening November 5, 1999

D. Wierzba, R. Williams	5:00-7:00	7 <sup>th</sup> New Jersey Symposium
John Adams	7:10-8:00	Betts Medals
Tom Denly	8:10-9:00	The Early Paper Money of America
Robert Vlack	9:10-10:00	French Colonial Coinage

### Saturday November 6, 1999

Mary Sauvain	10:00-10:50	Collecting Colonials for the Beginner
Phil Mossman	11:00-11:50	Coinage that Circulated in Colonial America



## ***Noted Numismatist Robbed***

By Jim Rosen

As many of you may know, numismatist and dealer Tom Reynolds of Omaha, Nebraska, was robbed recently at his home after returning from the Central States Coin Convention. Tom, who deals primarily in colonial, half cents and large cents, has been a supporter of our C4 Convention from the beginning. Fortunately, he was unharmed during this robbery but his entire inventory of coins along with some auction lots from the recent EAC sale were taken. Sadly, Tom was not insured for this loss.

For those of you who do not know Tom, he is a gentleman of the highest caliber, and a wonderful numismatist who has always shared his knowledge of coppers and love of the hobby.

It you would like to make a monetary donation, a donation of coins (preferably coppers), or if you would like to send him coins on consignment to help Tom get back on his feet and assist him through this very difficult time, I know that he would be most grateful for your help. I have personally discussed this thought with Tom and he was deeply moved. He is certainly deserving of our help.

If you feel you can help in any way, please notify Tom Reynolds at  
Thank you in advance  
for your consideration.



*Spring, 1999*  
***Letters to the Editor***

**George Washington and Jacob Perkins**

The spring 1999 C4 newsletter was once again very informative and a joy to read. I especially enjoyed Angel Pietri's article on "The Washington Funeral Urn Medal and Paul Revere". I have enclosed for this issue a follow-up article highlighting Jacob Perkins' life that I wrote last year for Bowers & Merena's "Rare Coin Review". I hope you find it interesting.

My collection of Washingtonia includes many books written about Washington's life. The prize item in my library is the 5 volume set on "The Life of Washington", by John Marshall, published during the years 1804-07. This fine work details many aspects of Washington's life that later works dismiss as trivial information. Each of the early works on Washington prioritizes different aspects of his life and is an essential reference to the researcher. Some of these works include David Ramsay in 1811, Jared Sparks in 1839, J.T. Headley in 1859, Edward Everett in 1860, and Washington Irving's 5-volume set published in 1859.

Sincerely,  
Russell Easterbrooks



**The Byron Reed Collection**

As you may know, Byron Reed was an Omaha Realtor who, along with his father, put together a superb collection of ancient, foreign and American coins during the 1800s. When Reed died in 1891 as the richest man in Nebraska, he donated his collection to the Omaha City Library, where it was alternately warehoused, exhibited and pilfered from for the next eighty years, finally being locked in a bank vault beginning in the 1970s. In 1989, portions of the collection were placed on display at the Western Heritage Museum in an exhibit that received mixed reviews. This exhibit was taken down in 1995,

and the following year, the City of Omaha decided to sell portions of the Reed Collection to fulfill their annual contractual obligations towards supporting the Museum.

Please note that no member of the present curatorial or administrative staff currently employed by the Museum was involved with mounting the 1989 exhibition. Readers should also be aware that the decision to sell portions of the Reed Collection was made by the Omaha mayor and approved by the Omaha city council. Museum officials were opposed and remain to this day opposed to the sale, but were not the legal owners of the coins and thus could not prevent their auction from occurring. With that disclaimer out of the way, I must add that the money generated from the sale has provided much-needed funds to construct the new Reed Exhibit, as well as to establish an endowment for the Collection's perpetual care.

An any rate, since that is all water under the bridge at this point, the Durham Western Heritage Museum will shortly be opening a 2,000 sq. ft. exhibit devoted to the display of the remainder of the Reed Collection. And despite the sale of \$5.9 million worth of coins, the remainder of the Reed Collection still contains thousands of coins, including many rarities.

It is well known that the Reed Collection contains one of the six Class I 1804 dollars in existence, which we still have. There are also Reed's 335 U.S. pattern coins, said to be the finest available for study, his Territorial gold pieces including one of three known Dubosq \$5.00 pieces, the finest sutler token collection known and many other rarities. But what is possibly much more interesting to the C4 membership is how many colonial coins are also in the Collection (no colonials were sold). To whet your appetite, I will list just a few of the 160+ colonial pieces in the Reed Collection:

NE Shilling (Parmalee plate coin)  
Immune Columbia pattern in silver with reeded edge  
(Parmalee plate coin) Lord Baltimore sixpence and shilling  
Myddleton token

*Spring, 1999*

Chalmers threepence (2), sixpence and shilling Standish Barry three pence  
Getz half dollars (1 silver with designs on rim and 2 copper versions) scores of State coinage, including 28 Connecticuts  
The usual assemblage of (choice) Rosa Americanas, Nova Constellatios, Fugio cents, etc.

Almost all of these coins will be on display starting in June. Reed also collected early U.S. medals, so we have a beautiful *Libertas Americana* (along with the original broadside printed by Franklin describing its symbolism), a Castorland medal, and a nice Pitt medal, as well as a complete run of Assay medals from 1860-1890 and scores of U. S. Mint medals (Peace medals, military, naval, life-saving, etc). Finally, Reed's collection of Washingtonia is said to be one of the nicest extant.

As can be seen, the Reed collection is still an awesome assemblage of important American coins and medals. Researchers, including those interested in colonials, will probably have to re-adjust both their census and condition census reports as the Reed coins are attributed and graded in the coming year. If those individuals doing census reports on various coin types (I noticed both the Nova Constellatio and St. Patrick series are currently being studied) would contact me at the address below, I will be happy to provide them with such information as they desire regarding the Reed Collection. By this time next year, the Collection should all be digitally scanned and available for viewing on our soon-to-be-developed website.

In the meantime, numismatists of all branches are welcome to come and visit the Museum. The new display will be open this summer, and everyone is invited to come see the hundreds of coins that will be on display in the Byron Reed Gallery. Serious scholars are invited to arrange in advance a time when they can utilize the Byron Reed Resource Center or study individual coins from the Reed collection. I look forward to meeting and working with you all.

Best Wishes,  
Lawrence J. Lee

Curator, Byron Reed Collection  
Durham Western Heritage Museum  
801 South Tenth Street  
Omaha, NE 68108  
402-444-5071



## ***ANA Summer Course on Colonial Coinage and Paper Money***

Instructors: Ken Bressett, Eric Newman, and Tom Rinaldo

Dates: July 10-16, 1999

Class minimum: 20

Three top experts in colonial coinage and paper money will spend an entire week sharing their knowledge of the subject and answering your questions. Whether you are a long-time collector or new to the field, there has never been a better time to delve as deeply into this important and fascinating area of numismatics.

Students are encouraged to bring their coins and notes.

If you are interested, contact the ANA Education Department at 719-632-2646.



*Spring, 1999*

## ***A Georgivs Triumpho as the Undertype of a NJ 73-aa***

by Dennis P. Wierzba

Walter Breen in his Encyclopedia (1) states that "Discovery of several "Plaited Mane" Jersey coppers (935=(NJ73-aa)), made in 1788-89, overstruck on specimens of the GEORGIVS TRIUMPHO (Fig. 1), proves that this Washington piece, unlike any others dated 1783, was actually struck in the 1780s." Numismatic researcher, Michael Hodder, has stated that four NJ73-aa's said by Breen to be overstruck on a GEORGIVS TRIUMPHO copper were in fact over other coppers such as a counterfeit George III English halfpenny, a counterfeit George III Irish halfpenny, a Vlack 13-88CT and a Connecticut copper (2). Mike Ringo had never seen a GEORGIVS TRIUMPHO undertype (3).

The example of the NJ 73-aa pictured in Fig. 2 and Fig. 3 was lot 79 in the Torok sale (Bowers and Merena, September 14,1998). It weighs 111.5 grains with a diameter of 29.1 mm. After I purchased the copper, I tried to identify the undertype. The NJ obverse appeared to show the letters C and E in the area where NOVA should be. The letters V and O can be seen partly and with lesser clarity. Because the copper is porous, I wasn't certain of my identification. The only copper of this size with "VOCE" in the legend and GEORGIVS on the other side is a GEORGIVS TRIUMPHO. Further study showed two (of four) fleur de lys, the late state die crack and detail of the bust that matched. This undertype identification has been shown and verified by Jim Skalbe, Richard August, Mike Ringo and Michael Hodder. Whether Walter Breen saw this copper is unknown.

Two other NJ's may have the GEORGIVS TRIUMPHO undertype, a Spiro 56-n and a Brand 35-W. As for Spiro 1571, then Bareford 186 (and reappearing on a Tom Rinaldo FPL), Bill Anton says that this coin has no evidence of the TRIVMPHO undertype (4). In discussing the 35-W, Breen says "Its undertype is not positively identifiable, but it looks very much like GEORGIVS TRIVMPHO"



(5). Until an expert can examine this copper, the undertype is uncertain.

The best analysis that I have seen on the GEORGIVS TRIUMPHO is the Mike Ringo article in CNL 100 (3). Although he could not verify the statements of a NJ overstrike, he believes the copper to be contemporaneous and probably produced in England by a prolific counterfeiter of English and Irish halfpence. Mike notes that the bust design also appears on a 1776 Irish counterfeit halfpenny. The Britannia torso is almost identical to one appearing on a 1775 counterfeit halfpenny. Mike also notes punch linkages to the 1783 NOVA CONSTELLATIO 1-A (especially the deformed 3). However, since many punches can be raised from a single matrix, the same diesinker/mint conclusion may not follow with certainty.

Eric Newman believes the GEORGIVS TRIUMPHO copper to be an English product. "There is virtually no possibility that the dies for the GEORGIVS TRIUMPHO coppers would have been prepared in America because pieces of satirical coinage in the category of evasion halfpence which were extensively produced in England and Ireland with humorous and unofficial legends had no American *raison d'être* (6)." Eric suggests the punch linkages between the NOVA and the GEORGIVS supports an English source for the NOVA's.

Michael Hodder has an opposing view. "I know Breen attributes the Georgius Triumpho to Birmingham but it should be obvious that the workmanship of the reverse die is not up to the standard of that on the obverse die. In fact, it looks to me like two different hands made these two dies, and I see no reason why the reverse could not have been made here in America. If so, then maybe the Georgivs Triumpho coppers were struck here. And if that is so, and the Georgivs Triumpho shares punches with the Nova Constellatio, then maybe we have additional suggestions that the Novas were really struck in Philadelphia, after all! (2)

What do I think? I view the GEORGIVS TRIUMPHO as a hybrid of a pro-American political condor and an evasion that was struck in England. It may have been intended to circulate in England, Ireland



Fig. 1: Georgivs Triumpho



Fig. 2: NJ 73-aa struck over Georgivs Triumpho, lot 79, Bowers and Merena's Torok Sale, September 14, 1998.

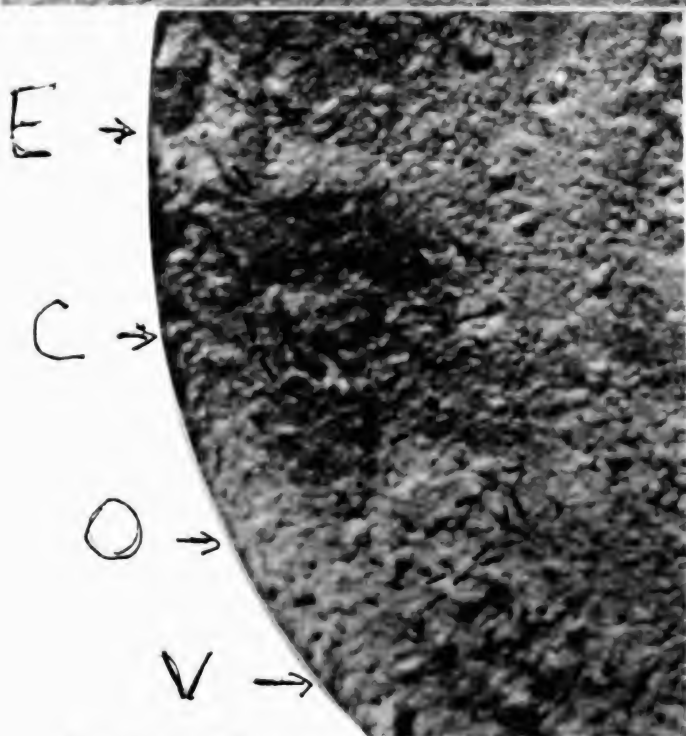


Fig. 3A: NJ 73-aa struck over Georgivs Triumpho, magnified view of undertype features (Die break, VOCE).

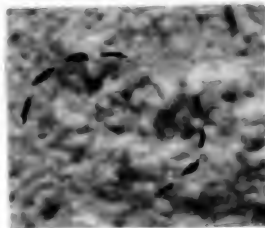


Fig. 3B: NJ 73-aa struck over Georgivs Triumpho, magnified view of undertype features (Georgivs, fleur de lys).

**Spring, 1999**

and America. The legend VOCE POPULI has been associated with Irish coinage that was perhaps imported into America. This legend does not appear on any American-produced copper. The same argument applies for the VOCE POPOLI legend. At least one late die example circulated prior to 1790 (estimated latest date for NJ 73-aa) in America. Whether others were imported to circulate as counterfeit halfpence awaits further research. Perhaps some future non-destructive analysis of coppers may "fingerprint" the source of planchet stock between England and America for NOVA's, GEORGIVS TRIUMPHO and various counterfeits.

- (1) Walter Breen's Complete Encyclopedia of U.S. and Colonial Coins by Walter Breen, F.C.I. Press, 1988, p. 133.
- (2) Private correspondence between Michael Hodder and Dennis Wierzbica 1/9/99
- (3) The Georgivs Triumpho Token by Mike Ringo, CNL 100, p.1515-1520.
- (4) The Forgotten Coins of the North American Colonies by William T. Anton and Bruce P. Kesse, Krause Publications, 1992, p. 45
- (5) New Jersey Coppers by Walter Breen, unpublished manuscript, 1955. Reproduced from an almost unreadable copy by Ray Williams, p. 80.
- (6) New Thoughts on the Nova Constellatio Private Copper Coinage by Eric P. Newman, Coinage of the Americas Conference at ANS, New York, October 28, 1995, p. 79-105.



## ***Jacob Perkins: Inventor Extraordinaire***

By Russell Easterbrooks

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### **Perkins' Accomplishments**

Early America can justly boast of having given birth to many individuals of ingenuity and skill in the physical sciences. Such well

known names as Ben Franklin and David Rittenhouse quickly come to mind, sharing their philosophical and mechanical skills during the late 1700s.

Lesser known is the name, Jacob Perkins, known to numismatists with a research turn of mind, but a figure hardly in the mainstream of American history. Perkins was a talented die cutter and engraver, whose mechanical knowledge distinguished him in America. Ask a collector of state copper coins about Perkins, and he will come to the fore as one of the makers of dies for the 1787-1788 Massachusetts series. Ask a collector of Washington tokens and medals about Perkins, and he will be recognized as the creator of the famous 1800 funeral medal, HE IS IN GLORY, THE WORLD IN TEARS. Ask a collector of early bank notes about Perkins, and he will be recalled as the premier inventor of anti-counterfeiting processes during the early 19th century.

### **Perkins: The Early Years**

Born in the busy seaport town of Newburyport, Massachusetts on July 9, 1766, Jacob Perkins was known at a young age to have had an inquisitive mind. His father, Mathew Perkins, a tailor by trade, once related that his son's attention was attracted by his pocket timepiece. "The sound of the ticking caused Jacob to examine the works, thus rendering my watch silent for a time."

Jacob attended a common public school until the age of 12. His interests in the mechanic arts induced his parents to have him study a suitable trade. Jacob was put into an apprenticeship with a goldsmith named Davis. There he learned to work with gold and silver making beads, shoe buckles, and other crafted items. Davis died when Jacob was 15, leaving the youngster to run the business and gain his own reputation for honesty and fidelity. One of Jacob's earliest innovations was a new method of plating shoe buckles, a process which soon turned an attractive profit.

At about the age of 21, Jacob invented a machine which would make nails by snipping a thin iron rod and forming a head. This very useful

***Spring, 1999***

device should have yielded great profits for Jacob, but he was deceived by speculators.

## **Massachusetts Copper Coins**

Soon thereafter Jacob was employed as a die cutter by Joshua Wetherle, who was in charge of coining copper cents and half cents at the newly established Massachusetts state mint. Joseph Callender, an engraver from Boston, had done most of the prior die cutting for the mint at a cost considered by Massachusetts to be excessive. Jacob's efforts proved to be more satisfactory and at a lower cost, an ideal combination.

Today it is a popular numismatic guideline to discern the difference between the two die cutters' work by the appearance of letter S in the word MASSACHUSETTS. Copper cents and half cents dated 1787 and some of 1788 display an S that is open at the top and bottom and are believed to have been from dies by Callender. In contrast, it is believed Jacob Perkins' dies display an S that is more closed and is often referred to as resembling the figure 8. It is also interesting to note that these Massachusetts coppers represented the first appearance of the word CENT on a coin made in the United States.

The Massachusetts mint closed in 1789 realizing that each copper produced cost twice its face value to make.

## **Perkins and the Philadelphia Mint?**

*The New Hampshire Packet*, July 18, 1792, describes Jacob Perkins newest invention:

Several newspapers of the past and present week have prematurely mentioned Mr. Perkins of this town being sent forward to Philadelphia, for the purpose of superintending the coinage there [the cornerstone of the new Philadelphia Mint would be laid on July 31]. Mr. Perkins' abilities in that line are fully adequate to such an appointment, as the specimens he has exhibited in that line amply testifies.... He has invented a new machine which cuts the



metal into such circular pieces as are wanted, and gives the impression at the same time — its motion is accelerated by a balance wheel, and more than one third of the time and labor thereby saved. He has also constructed another machine, of his own invention, for milling or lettering the edge, by which a boy can mill 60 each minute. Were it found necessary, he could apply steam to perform all the most laborious parts of the business.

But what is of more importance, and will be found to be of more public utility than all the foregoing, is a check, which he has invented, for discovering counterfeits — this is so contrived that 1/ 8th of a minute is sufficient to determine, without the possibility of a mistake, whether a piece of money is genuine or not, and any town merchant can be supplied at a small expense with said checks, and then rest assured that an imposition would be absolutely impossible.

## **A Tribute to Washington**

Soon after George Washington's death on December 14, 1799, Jacob Perkins produced several funeral medals portraying Washington, accompanied by the inscription: HE IS IN GLORY, THE WORLD IN TEARS.

In January 1800 *Russell's Gazette*, printed in Boston, published the following notice:

Mr. Jacob Perkins of Newburyport has designed and executed a very beautiful medal of Gen. Washington. On one side is an excellent likeness of that illustrious personage; and on the reverse, a memoranda of the most remarkable periods of his life. They are struck in gold, silver, or white metal, and may be purchased of Mr. Perkins, or at the bookstore in Newburyport, and of Mr. Eben Moulton, a goldsmith in this town.

## **Bank Note Security**

Jacob's next endeavor was preparing a device preventing the counterfeiting of bank bills. This consisted of having the bills'

## ***Spring, 1999***

denominations spelled out in minute type as a background. This plate worked so well that in the interest of the public a law was passed requiring all the banks in Massachusetts to use it.

Jacob's continued work with bank notes led him to discover a way to harden steel which was useful for engraving plates that would last a long time, for a far greater duration than the soft copper plates generally in use.

Subsequently, Perkins moved to Philadelphia where he resided for several years before moving on to England. There he was employed a short while by the English government to prepare plates to prevent the counterfeiting of bills for the Bank of England. There on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean the *Mechanic's Magazine* owed much to Jacob Perkins for his ingenious papers published in its pages relating particularly to the power and uses of steam.

In 1825 he devised a steam-operated gun which he demonstrated for the Duke of Wellington. Some of his other inventions included a "steam rocket engine" and a "propeller for steam vessels."

Jacob Perkins died in England on July 30, 1849, leaving a rich legacy including many accomplishments including some foundational to coins and paper money.



## ***A Link Between Walter Mould and James Jarvis***

by Dennis Wierzba

Damon Douglas published in the July 1947 *Numismatist* (p.491) two letters written in 1784 addressed to James Jarvis, who in 1786 would acquire an interest in New Haven's "Company for Coining Coppers", and in 1787 secured the infamous contract from the United States to produce the Fugio Coppers. The Connecticut State Library acquired these letters in 1941. The first letter, from Walter Mould to James Jarvis is reproduced here. This letter was written on Feb. 20, 1784

and mailed from Kinsale, Ireland. It is addressed to "Mr. James Jarvis, New York, per the ship Irish Volunteer" and reads as follows:

*Dear Jarvis,*

*I take this opportunity by a Vessell that I am informed will sail from Cork to acquaint you of my situation—after one of the most disagreeable Passages that can be described and bearing within sight of the English Coast for upwards of a Week our Provisions and Water all or nearly all gone we were obliged to put into this Place. I do not mean by this to trouble you with an account of my troubles only as far as my disappointment which in time—we are likely to continue here yet the wind against us so that you see tis impossible I can be in N. York at the time I wished—I flatter myself I shall find letter in England from you and it will be a great satisfaction to be informed you have fixed that Place as I really see many advantages from such a situation—I shall write as soon as I can from England and inform you of everything I find necessary and in the mean time shall do all in my Power to forward our Plans—I have had an offer by a gentleman from the West of England to fix in the Malting Business. I told him I could do nothing without your Consent but I really have a great Opinion of it and it may be carried on in that Place with the Other at a small expense—I have thought of bringing a good Malt make with me but no opinion of any other connection. My best wishes attend you and family and believe me Dear Jarvis*  
*Your affectionate Humble Sevt*

*W. Mould*

From this letter (Feb. 20, 1784) it is learned that Walter Mould traveled to England on behalf of James Jarvis. Mould hopes to hear "...that you (Jarvis) have fixed that Place". Furthermore, "... (Mould will) inform you of everything I find necessary and in the mean time **shall do all in my Power to forward our Plans--I have had an offer by a gentlemen from the west of England to fix in the Malting Business. I told him I could do nothing without your Consent, but I really have a great Opinion of it and it may be carried on in that Place with the Other at a small expense.**"

Knowing the players, Damon Douglas, despite the seemingly intentional vagueness in the letter, suggested that Mould was to bring back equipment to mint coppers. He inferred this from their later involvement in the coinage of coppers. Numismatic tradition, as quoted by Maris, says that Mould " had brought over with him his entire apparatus **{our Plans??}**, which he had used in a like occupation in the old country." (1). Did Mould make more than one trip (or did he need to?) as we have coining equipment in Machin Mills, Morristown and Rahway. Gary Trudgen in his article on Samuel and James F. Atlee in CNL states that Samuel Atlee & Co are porter brewers. (In an ad that appeared on May 31, 1784) located in the late Harrison's brewery **{that Place??}** (2).

Trudgen also notes that a newly arrived (in NYC) Albion Cox joined the partnership of Daniel Van Voorhis, William Coley and Simeon A. Bayley from December 1784 to April 1785. On June 1, 1786, Cox, Goadsby and Mould were granted a coinage contract for NJ. Previously Mould (with Edward Brigden) petitioned the Continental Congress for a copper coinage contract on August 18, 1785. It was denied (2).

By an indenture of June 7, 1787, the Vermont and Machin Mills coiners were joined. They were Reuben Harmon, Jr., William Cooley, Daniel Van Voorhis, Elias Jackson, John Bailey, James Atlee, Samuel Atlee, James Giles, James Grier, Thomas Machin and David Brooks (3). James Jarvis received the Fugio contract on July 6, 1787.(4). It is fairly clear that nearly all the colonial coiners had a history of business relationships. The Damon Douglas discovery identifies a further link.

(1) The Coins of New Jersey by Edward Maris, Quarterman Publications, Lawrence, MA

(2) Samuel and James F. Atlee by Gary A. Trudgen in CNL October 1992 p.1318-1352

(3) The Early Coins of America by Sylvester S. Crosby, p196-202, Quarterman Publications, Lawrence, MA

(4) Ibid., p.298



## ***St. Patrick's Coinage Projects***

By John Griffec

There are two projects underway regarding St. Patrick's coinage.

- 1- Stan Stephens (address in front of newsletter under club officers) is preparing a reference listing of all known coins in the hands of US collectors.
- 2- I am working on a book on these coins. It will cover more than you ever wanted to know about St. Patrick's coinage, including early history, facts about Marc Newby, enlargements of all known die varieties (at least 200 or more), and an attribution and rarity guide.

Well-known photographer and copper expert, Bill Noyes, is the official photographer for both of the above projects.

Please help us with these two projects. Let me know if you have any of these coins, even if your collection contains only one of these coins. Stan and I will see how we can have your coin(s) photographed. Bill attends the C4, EAC, and FUN conventions, plus a limited number of additional shows on both the East and West coasts.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

John M. Griffec



## Ed Sarrafian

Ed Sarrafian

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**Bob Merchant.**

E-mail: [vermont@ix.netcom.com](mailto:vermont@ix.netcom.com)

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